

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	<b>Item ID</b>	16534	<b>Agenda Number</b>	11.
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<b>Meeting Date:</b>	6/28/2012	<b>Department:</b>	Austin Energy
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**Subject**

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$413,935 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) as the administering agency, and amending the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20110912-005 to appropriate \$413,935 for administrative and programmatic support associated with the City's ARRA home weatherization program.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

Funding is available from the DOE through the TDHCA as a result of the ARRA of 2009 for the grant period of September 1, 2009 to April 30, 2012. No match is required.

**Fiscal Note**

A fiscal note is attached.

<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	
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<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	January 12, 2012 – Approved acceptance of \$900,000 grant from DOE through TDHCA; December 8, 2011 – Approved acceptance of \$200,000 from DOE; April 07, 2011 – Approved acceptance of \$2.1 million from DOE; January 13, 2011 – Approved acceptance of an additional \$86,774 grant from DOE; September 13, 2010 – Approved Austin Energy's Operating Budget including \$2.983 million in additional grant funds from DOE; April 8, 2010 – Approved contracts to complete weatherization services; November 19, 2009 – Approved acceptance of \$2,900,000 grant from DOE and an interlocal agreement with Travis County.
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<b>For More Information:</b>	Fred Yebra, Acting Vice President, Distributed Energy Services, 482-5305.
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<b>Boards and Commission Action:</b>	
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<b>MBE / WBE:</b>	
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<b>Related Items:</b>	
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**Additional Backup Information**

On June 22, 2012, Austin Energy received formal notice from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) that additional weatherization grant funds were available to cover administrative and programmatic costs associated with the ARRA home weatherization program. Because the State is required to expend weatherization funds by June 30, returning any remaining unused funds to the federal government, TDHCA was seeking willing program administrators who could obtain approval and receive funds within that timeframe.

By accepting the additional monies, Austin Energy's total grant allocation will equal \$9.6 million and Austin Energy will have implemented the ARRA home weatherization program for a cost to the City of less than \$200.

Austin Energy's ARRA home weatherization program ended April 30, 2012 following multiple grant offerings from TDHCA totaling \$9.2 million to date. With the funds, Austin Energy weatherized 1,886 dwellings for low-income, elderly, and disabled customers within its service area. These dwellings were occupied by 4,529 persons of whom 645 were elderly, 572 had disabilities and 758 were children under the age of five years old.

With the TDHCA contract requirement that all work be completed by April 30, 2012, this final allocation of grant funds is only being offered for administrative and programmatic support; therefore, no new contract solicitations may occur.